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June 8 2004

Idaho State Clearinghouse  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074**RE: STB Docket No. AB-872, Great Northwest Railroad, Inc. –  
Abandonment Exemption – In Clearwater County, Idaho**

Dear Sir/Madam:

On or shortly after June 28, 2004, Great Northwest Railroad, Inc. ("GNR") will be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Petition for Exemption seeking authority to abandon its 31-mile rail line located between milepost 0.0, at Orofino, and milepost 31.0, near Jaype, Clearwater County, Idaho (the "Line"). Attached are an Environmental Report and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing these reports so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental and historic analyses of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001, Telephone (202) 565-1545, and refer to the above Docket No. AB-872. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

June 8, 2004

Page 2

Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned by telephone at (202) 638-3307 or by mail at Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Morell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karl" being more prominent than the last name "Morell".

Karl Morell

Attorney for Great Northwest Railroad, Inc.

Enclosures